



SPOKE

Vol 26, No. 37

Conestoga College, Kitchener, Ontario

November 7, 1994

Ghoul-tide spirit



First-year student Tanya Savoie helps with the decorating of the fourth floor hallway for Halloween by blowing up black and orange balloons.
(Photo by Mike Beitz)

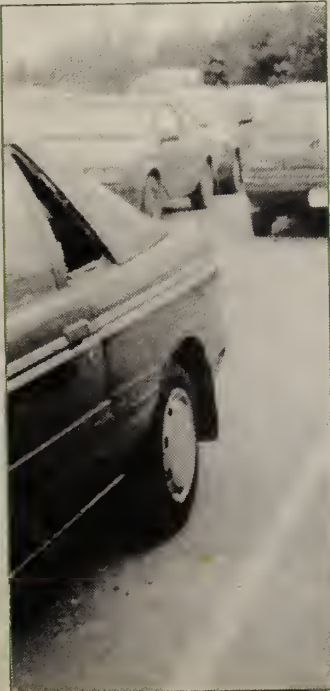
Car vandalized in lot

A black Nissan Sentra hatchback in Lot 2 had its rear window smashed and speakers stolen Oct. 25 at approximately 11:15 a.m., according to college security.

Security officer Mary Mitchell said she was on patrol when a student flagged her over to Lot 2. The student, Mike Collins, told Mitchell that a car had been vandalized.

When Mitchell arrived at the vehicle, she said she found shattered glass littering the pavement and speaker wires hanging from the open hatchback. Security guard Rich Rikkonen said the vandal(s) likely broke the vehicle's rear window to reach the hatchback door release before they stole the speaker.

Waterloo regional police were informed of the incident.



Bugged

Health board to inspect Conestoga food

By Jennie Richardson

Heather Milburn, a first-semester Conestoga journalism student, said she used to have soup almost every day for lunch, but not any more.

"Recently, I got my soup as usual, but when I took my first mouthful something crunched."

She explained she thought it was just grit on the mushrooms from not being cleaned well enough, but when she took what she thought was a mushroom out of her mouth, she discovered it had legs.

"I was hoping it was not what I thought it was, but it was not a mushroom, it was a reddish-brown colored cockroach."

Milburn said she took the soup and the cockroach back into the cafeteria and told the cashier what had happened. The cashier refunded her money and said she would tell the manager.

Milburn said when she went back into the cafeteria, she noticed a student dishing out a bowl of soup. She said asked the cashier why the soup was still being served and was told that she had passed the word on.

These things happen

Beaver Food manager Gerry Langis said he was not in the immediate area when the cockroach situation arose. "These things happen sometimes, a hair or a fly in the food, and when it does it is an immediate concern. I deal with it as soon as possible."

Langis said when he was informed that a cockroach had been found in the soup he asked if the woman who reported it was still around. When he found out she was not, he did a visual inspection of the soup in the foodline.

He said there was only a little of the soup left, but he did not find anything in the remainder, so he went to the kitchen and told the staff that the soup needed to be changed, but he had to inspect the remaining 45 litres before more could be put out.

The kettle remained on the food line for approximately two minutes after the visual check, he said.

Langis said he is working on having another person at Beaver Foods being able to make judgment calls, like removing soup, if a manager is not available.

Milburn said a visual check is not good enough. "I did not notice it (the cockroach) when I was dishing my soup so how could the manager make sure? It was a creamy soup." She said she thought all the remain-



Judy Gauvon of Beaver Foods kitchen staff preparing lunch for sale in the cafeteria.
(Photo by Jennie Richardson)



First-year journalism student Heather Milburn poses with one of Beaver Foods' soup choices.
(Photo by Jennie Richardson)

ing soup should have been thrown out.

She said, "When you are at a restaurant, the waiter doesn't pick off the hair and say 'eat it anyway.'"

Langis said the bug could have come from anywhere, but he is confident that the contamination happened on the food line, not in the kitchen, so he served the remainder of the soup from the kitchen.

Zero tolerance

Paul Stone, manager of food safety for the Waterloo Region community health unit, said after being told about the incident that there is zero tolerance for insects.

"It is part of the requirements to serve food. You cannot have flies,

hair, cockroaches or fingers in the food being served," he said.

Stone said the most recent inspection of the cafeteria had been in 1993 and its operators have since changed.

He said the cafeteria had been classified as a medium risk due to its cement construction. He said the building would be hard to get into, but insects can infiltrate in many ways, such as on supply boxes.

Stone said a full inspection will be made of the cafeteria and all other food services at Conestoga as soon as an inspector becomes available.

"It is important to determine whether this is an infestation or an isolated incident," Stone said.

SPOKE

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Spoke is published and produced by the journalism — print students of Conestoga College. Spoke is mainly funded from September to May by the DSA. The views and opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of the college or the DSA. Advertisers in Spoke are not endorsed by the DSA unless their advertisements contain the DSA logo. Spoke shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertising beyond the amount paid for the space.

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Unauthorized biographies are simply tabloid trash

In recent weeks, books dealing with the lives and loves of Nicole Brown Simpson and Princess Diana have hit the bookstores, inviting readers into Simpson's and Diana's private worlds.

The subject in these books did not choose to have them written; they are books that someone else wrote for financial gain.

The theory seems to be that if you know someone who is famous, it's almost your right to make money from that contact.

After all, if a person is famous, what rights do they have? They have chosen to live their life in the public eye, which takes away their right to privacy.

Sorry, but it just doesn't wash. No matter how public a person's life is, they still deserve their privacy.

There are a slew of these books on the market, written by people (I hesitate to call them authors) who see nothing wrong with exposing the lives of others for their own profit.

Any well-known face stands a chance of having a so-called friend or confidante tell all their secrets to the world.

Whether the information presented in the books is even true is another matter.

The validity of the facts is unimportant. Most of these writers will juice up the story if they think it will bring in better sales.

It's bad enough when people like Oprah Winfrey and Roseanne Arnold have to fight these so-called authors to try to keep their intimate secrets their own.

At least Winfrey, Arnold and Diana can fight it if they choose, and even if the book is still published, the public is aware that the subject was not in agreement.

But in the case of Nicole Brown Simpson, it is much worse. There is no way she can defend herself against the accusations. Her life will be judged by its contents, whether they are true or not.

Shouldn't these people, however famous they may be, have a right to privacy?

An authorized biography or autobiography is the person's choice. An unauthorized biography is simply trash.

It is someone trying to benefit from the fortune or misfortune of others.

I know if I were a well-known figure in society, I certainly wouldn't want my dirty laundry aired for the world to read.

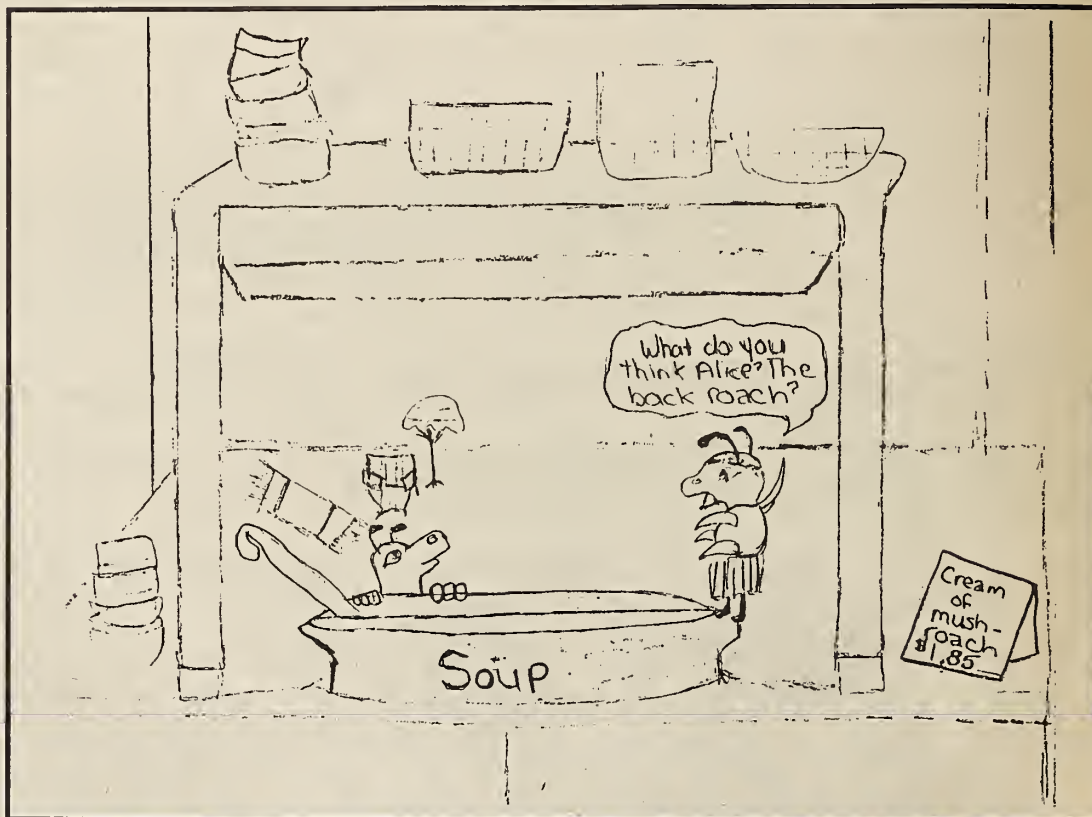
I think people should boycott these books because buying them is only feeding the ego of the person who wrote them, and creating demand for other people's lives to be invaded and their reputations affected.

There are more than enough well-written, interesting books out there that people can read, rather than buying into and promoting sleazy tabloid-style writers.



By Michelle Voll

OPINION



Some remember only their bank accounts

It is ironic that, as we prepare to don poppies in remembrance of those who died in the war, factions in the Middle East seem determined to add numbers to a new list of casualties.

While Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Jordan's King Hussein inked the peace accord between the two countries Oct. 26, blood was still being shed.

The week before the signing, a suicide bomber blew up a bus in Tel Aviv and killed 21 people.

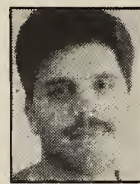
But strides are being made toward peace in other places around the world.

In Northern Ireland, talks between the British government and the Irish Republican Army have led to an IRA ceasefire on the war-torn island, and the border between Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic is finally being opened.

Haiti has witnessed the return of ousted President Jean Bertrand Aristide after a bloody period of military rule.

And North Korea has signed a pact with the United States to freeze and dismantle all nuclear programs, which many feared would have led to the production of atomic weapons.

But, it seems that for every step forward the global community takes toward world peace, two steps are taken backward.



By Mike Beitz

A recent proposal by Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister Andre Ouellet to link foreign aid to Third World countries with their commitment to reduce military spending has fallen mainly on deaf ears.

The U.S. and Britain, two major players in arms sales around the world, have downplayed the importance of such a proposal and, without their participation, it will likely go nowhere. The question, unfortunately, is one of dollars.

The sad fact of the matter is that wars are profitable. Countries engaging in the trade of nuclear weaponry alone are seeing millions of dollars in profits from the global sale of instruments aimed to kill.

If world peace was somehow achieved, and this exchange of cash for arms was halted, the economies of those countries involved would suffer and those responsible for the research, design, production and sale of the weapons would be out of work.

It seems that too many people have too great a financial stake in man's inhumanity to, and hatred for his fellow man.

Remembrance Day is the day set aside to remember and learn from the historical results of that inhumanity and that hatred.

But we should not just look to the past for our lessons because while those who forget the past are doomed to repeat it, those who ignore the present are just doomed.

Government needs to cut its own spending

Every time I hear budget, I cringe. I picture my kids asking me for more money to cover the PST and GST, my parents using every penny they have saved in order to pay for their health care and my future looking bleaker by the minute.

The new budget is three months away, but if pre-budget talks are the tip of what is to come, 1995 may not be a good year for most Canadians; just when we thought it was getting better.

The cutbacks are no real surprise, Martin is a cutback man, but raising taxes is staggering and the combination of tax increases and cutbacks is suicidal.

The Liberals' deficit-reduction target for the next two years is over \$6 billion and if cutbacks alone will not do it, Martin has hinted at alternatives — taxes. He has mentioned, although it is something he says he does not want to look at, taxing RRSPs and company pension plans.

His verbal determination to re-



By Maria Wareham

duce the deficit "come hell or high water" sends a loud and clear message: one way or another we will pay and it will be costly.

Government spending does have to be cut, but perhaps it should focus on in-house spending and on the negligent way it operates.

A few glaring discrepancies that enforce my theory have caught my attention: \$313 billion of the total federal debt of \$508 billion is in the hands of foreigners while Canadians pay approximately \$40 billion a year in interest on the federal debt; hundreds of Canadian millionaires collected social benefits such as, old age pensions and unemployment insurance; Fisheries Minister, Brian Tobin ran up \$125,740 in travel expenses in less than five

months in office; and the immigrant welfare tab is running a little high, \$700 million. I think someone should have this noticed earlier.

And it is not just the federal government. The NDP has reported lavish expenses. Robin Sears, for example, labelled Ontario's most expensive civil servant, cost taxpayers \$511,000 in 1993. He was paid \$135,000 in salary and billed \$376,334 in travel expenses — busy man.

Being an optimist, however, I have no doubt Martin will follow through on cutbacks in government departments (they can't manage now) and particularly on travel expenses, as he says.

Martin's sentimental political jargon such as "fair" deficit reduction measures and "sharing the pain" in the cutbacks do nothing restore my faith in the government and its operations. The only message it sends is we will be continue to pay come hell or high water for their future and past mistakes.

Letters to the editor

Spoke welcomes all letters to the editor. If you have a beef, or an opinion, please send it in. Spoke reserves the right to edit letters to fit space, and to remove any libellous statements. Your letter must be signed, and include your program and year for verification. Send letters to the Spoke office, Room 4B15, Doon campus.

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Campus Comments

If you could change your program, how would you improve it?



I'd bring in more guest speakers, models from the community that we should be looking up to.

Mike Raposo
Second-year general business

I'd have the teachers provide evaluation forms at the end of the term.

Neville Zuzarte
Second-year mechanical engineering



Get out of it. It's too general. I'd rather go into something more specific.

Becky Hincks
Second-year general business

I wouldn't change any aspect of my program.

Darren Pastrik
Second-year mechanical engineering



I'd look at some of the costs involved. I pay a recreation fee and I've never set foot in the rec centre.

Chris Homenuk
First-semester journalism

I'd try to incorporate the practical side like going out on tours, not so much lecturing and note-taking.

Laura Vaillancourt
Second-year business administration



I'd update the equipment and software.

Ben Noseworthy
First-year computer programming analysis

The course is pretty general. That's good in a way but it's also bad.

April-Dawn Blackwell
First-year management studies



I would make second year more transferable to other business courses.

Rob Fries
Second-year general business

They took away the physical aspect and we ended up with all this free time. I would want them to bring that back.

Mike Kobe
Second-year LASA



Ideas? Are there questions you would like answered? Spoke welcomes suggestions for Campus Comments. Bring suggestions to the Spoke office at room 4B15 or call Spoke at 748-5366.

Resources director still hopeful for a business school opening in 1995

By Kerry Masche

Conestoga's new school of business is scheduled to open in the fall of 1995, weather permitting, says physical resources director David Putt.

Putt called the college's latest building expenditure a "moving target" and said that completion depends not only on successful fundraising by the college, but the co-operation of the economy and the climate as well.

He said the college hopes the building will be complete by the middle of next July in order to be ready for students entering the fall term. However, he said the next five or six weeks could prove critical to the success of the project.

"We were sensitive to start (construction). We started this project a lot later than we had hoped to. We're at a critical stage laying out the foundation. If winter can hold off until we're finished pouring, we should be able to make our target deadline," he said.

Putt said if the college had waited any longer to start construction, it would have had to be put off until next spring. "We had to start now or not at all," he said.

The building is currently designed to take up approximately 40,000 square feet. It will be built towards Highway 401 and away from the bog located nearby.

Putt said that in the early '70s the college had originally intended to build straight across to connect with the Kenneth E. Hunter recreation centre, but a bog beside the building ruled out that plan.

He said seven or eight years ago, when the nurses wing was added to the school, it was discovered that it would cost the college thousands of dollars to dig the area up in order to make it a suitable construction site. At that time, the services leading outside the building for further expansion were turned towards the highway and capped until further construction took place.

Putt said three years ago, landfill from the construction of parking lot 12 was added to the bog in an effort to fill the site up but without success.

Putt said the new school of business is going to cost approximately \$4 million. He said \$313,000 has already been spent on design fees. This includes a building permit that cost roughly \$38,000.

He said the new building is being funded through a federal/provincial infrastructure plan. This means the federal government, provincial government and the college are each contributing one third the cost of construction, said Putt. He estimated one third to be approximately \$1.3 million.

Putt said the college is still waiting for \$900,000 from each of the

two governments. "We'd better hear from them pretty fast or else the building will have to be smaller," he said.

Investing Skills for Tomorrow is the name of the fundraising campaign Conestoga embarked upon three years ago in order to undertake projects such as the new business school.

Putt said college president John Tibbits has been making fundraising calls every day to help the college raise its portion of the funds needed.

According to Putt, most of the funds obtained have been corporate donations from businesses such as Toyota and the Bank of Montreal. He said funds have also been received from faculty, staff, students and college alumni but added that he was not sure how much money had been collected up to this point.

"It's a community fundraising effort," he said. Putt said some donations were made specifically for equipment or supplies while others will not be collected for another two years.

Putt said the school can not wait for the money however, and must come up with its share soon. He said the government will not supplement funds if the college's \$1.3 million target is not met. "In the government's eyes it cost \$1.3 million and that is all. To them, that's a good use of infrastructure."

Letter to the Editor

Anti-abortionists do not promote violence

To the Editor:

In your Oct. 24 issue of Spoke, you printed an article by Kerry Masche on abortion. I disagree with her main point in which she stated women who seek the service of abortion clinics often endure abuse, both verbal and physical.

I have participated in some of these "protests," all of which were very peaceful, and the only words spoken to women in these cases were words of encouragement and support. This is why there are services such as Pregnancy Crisis

Centres, and options such as adoption. I know abortions carry many hard decisions, and difficult times; I had someone close to me have an abortion, but I ask this — "Who are we to deny a little helpless baby life?"

Abortion is not a personal matter, because it is the taking of a life from someone who can't defend himself. Anti-abortionists do not push their opinion on others in the manner you suggest, but want others to be aware of the pain that results for the women who abort, and be the un-

heard cry for those who are silent, in a peaceful, non-violent way.

Steve Huizinga
Second-year woodworking technology

Corrections

In the story, Condors softball team are silver medallists, on page 10 of the Oct. 31 issue of Spoke, and in a cutline on the same page, Jasmine Havinga's name was misspelled. Spoke regrets the error.

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Let's roll out the carpet!!!

Journalism students question teachers

By Blake Patterson

Some students in Conestoga's journalism-print program say they want immediate answers and the journalism faculty say they can't promise any miracles, but both sides have agreed to continue talking.

At an Oct. 24 meeting, 60 journalism students and five faculty members, along with Fred Harris, chair of applied arts; and Grant McGregor, principal of Doon campus and dean of applied arts, met to discuss what some journalism students consider to be program shortcomings.

Acting as spokesman for a group of students who said they feel the journalism program's present curriculum does not make them marketable and competitive enough in the workforce, fourth-semester student James Leduc said students are concerned about the program's consistency of teaching, course content and the maintenance of equipment.

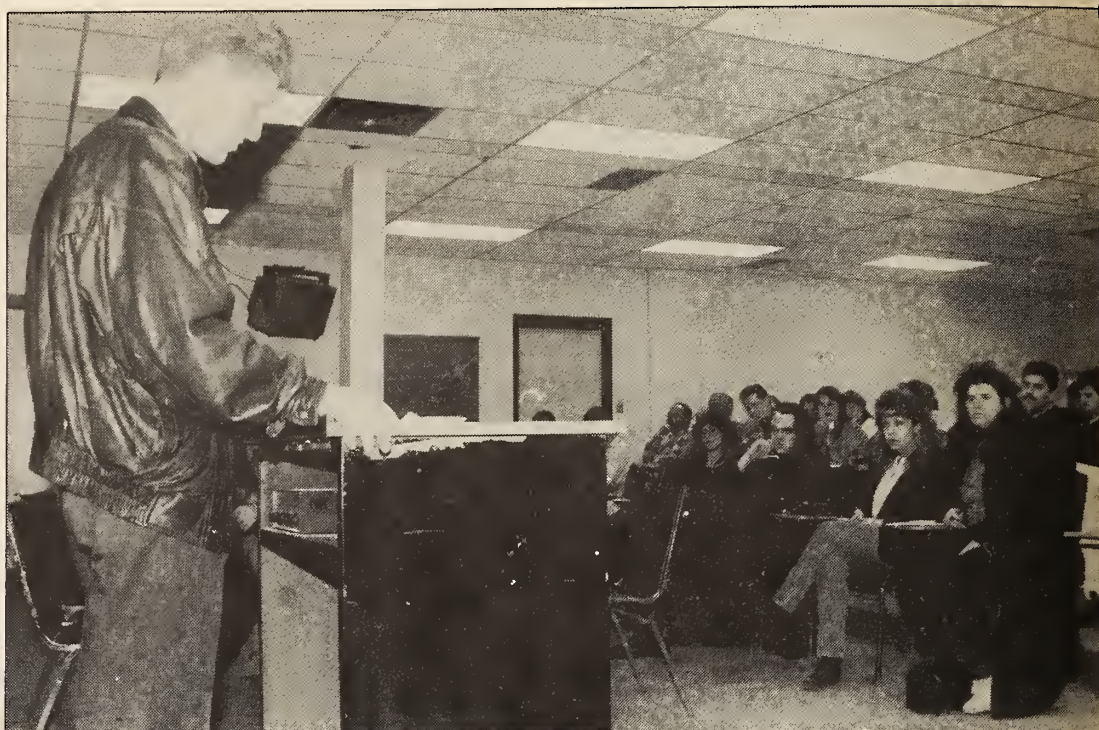
Leduc said he felt the attendance of both faculty and students at the meeting was a good indication that student concerns will be addressed.

"I believe that if someone has something to say, that person has the right to be heard," Leduc said. "Today, the students have something to say."

Leduc read a statement from fourth-semester student Patrick Tighe which said faculty evaluations by students and the establishment of common standards of teaching and course content would eliminate confusion and boost student confidence.

"Students shouldn't have to look in a crystal ball for program standards," Tighe said. He added that if Conestoga can't provide a quality journalism program, there are other colleges which can. "Students will speak with their money if their words aren't heard."

Tighe said the students want a consistently high standard applied to all courses rather than getting "whiplash" every time they move



Fourth-semester journalism student James Leduc addresses the faculty and students of Conestoga's journalism program.
(Photo by Blake Patterson)

from classroom to classroom.

But faculty member Dean Robinson disagreed. Robinson said that to impose a common standard across the faculty would push the standard to the lowest common denominator.

He said he makes no apologies for the curriculum and added that there is no "clandestine movement" on the part of the instructors to be cruel to the students.

Robinson said the demanding nature of the program forces students to be adaptable and, in turn, improves the college's product and reputation.

"It's not always going to be pleasant," Robinson said. "But you have to do the best you can in a situation."

He said periodic difficulties are part of growing-up and people should start accepting responsibility for their own shortcomings and failures.

"We have to stop blaming all these people in our lives who short-changed us."

Much discussion centred on the program's use of Ventura as the

basis of its desktop publishing instruction.

Third-semester student Michelle D'Alessandro presented the results of a recent informal poll of 10 area newspapers which indicated that Quark X Press has replaced Ventura as the newspaper industry's standard. Eight of 10 newspapers polled said they are or will be using it. Six of the eight said they prefer hiring graduates who are familiar

"We are teaching skills. There isn't any problem."

—Andrew Jankowski

with it.

D'Alessandro said students are concerned that the information they are learning is already out of date.

"For the money I pay for the course," D'Alessandro said, "I should be using programs like Quark and Pagemaker, which are used in the real world."

Faculty admitted that in the last

six months Quark has looked like it will become the industry standard, but they said training in Ventura provides a solid foundation in an industry which is technologically volatile.

Program co-ordinator Andrew Jankowski said Ventura is not useless.

The desktop skills learned on Ventura, according to the program's co-ordinator, are readily transferable to other software packages. "We are teaching skills," Jankowski said. "There isn't a problem."

College dean Grant McGregor said that due to financial limitations, the college "will never be able to stay up with current versions (of software)."

He said he would discuss the software problem with college president John Tibbits, but added that he could not promise any miracles. "We can't satisfy all capital requirements for all departments," McGregor said.

Management, faculty and students have agreed to talk again in two weeks.

Babe in arms



Stacey Hodder, a first-year nursing student, spends a little quality time with her son, three-month-old Jesse, at Doon campus.
(Photo by Frank Knobloch)

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MPP says welfare party is over

By Frank Knobloch

Living on the dole has become a way of life for many Ontarians and that has helped drive up the welfare bill in this province to \$6 billion annually, according to Waterloo North MPP Elizabeth Witmer. "The social safety net that we have today is no longer a net; for some people it's a big hammock."

Witmer told students in Lee Bryant's women in Canadian history class at Conestoga's Doon campus, Oct. 26, that people need to be encouraged to drop the welfare habit. She said welfare is needed, but too many abuse it.

A recent survey of the welfare system in Ontario determined that 20 per cent of the cases were either mismanaged or fraudulent, Witmer said. "We could achieve savings of over \$1 billion by cutting that waste."

On a recent trip to Elgin County, Witmer said she talked with a group of Grade 12 students concerned at the abuse of the welfare system by many of their cohorts.

She said students accused teen mothers and other young individuals of using a variety of methods to

dupe the system.

There are limits to the amount governments and taxpayers are willing to spend on welfare, and that limit has been reached, Witmer said.

"I'll tell you, I don't want to pay another tax and I don't want to see any more fees. People are fed up."

Despite huge revenues from heavy taxes, provincial and federal deficits have hit the roof, so welfare freeloaders are not the only ones to blame, Witmer said.

"Governments have been spending money wildly because they figure, 'well you know, our children or grandchildren will pay.' Well, the day is here folks."

National and international banks are calling in their markers, and if we do not start paying now, the consequences could be enormous, Witmer said.

"The governor of the Bank of Canada told a friend of mine last week in Ottawa that if we were a Third World country, they would have cut off funding a long time ago. But because we're white and a developed country, they're letting us slowly choke to death."

Governments must learn to live

within their means, she said. "We need to get our house in order."

According to Witmer, that could be done if the government would follow the financial plan that most financially successful Canadian families follow to set their budgets. That plan: Do not spend more than you make, she said.

It is not only the financial quagmire created by the inept policies of incumbent governments that perturbs people, she said, it is also the "antics of parliamentarians who overact" while debating legislative matters.

Queen's Park is no exception, Witmer said. "On occasion, I have walked out because I simply found their behavior intolerable."

She said people often phone her and comment in disgust on the foolishness (name calling and yelling) of politicians they see on television's parliamentary channel.

"Perhaps it's the fact that it's televised that makes some of these people (politicians) feel a need to become actors and actresses," Witmer said.

Because of the poor conduct shown by politicians at Queen's Park, some schools feel it is no



Waterloo North MPP Elizabeth Witmer speaks to a history class at Doon campus Oct. 26, about welfare abuse. (Photo by Frank Knobloch)

longer a fitting attraction for students, Witmer said.

"They're disgusted by the child-

ish antics at the legislature. Politicians don't have a good image at the present. We need to clean it up."

DSA audit, Spoke discussed at meeting

By James K. Leduc

The Oct. 25 board of directors' (BOD) meeting covered several issues, but the two that stood out were the Doon Student Association's (DSA) financial situation and Spoke, the school newspaper, said the vice-president of operations, following the meeting.

"The DSA is in good financial shape with a surplus of \$57,161 for the fiscal year ending July 31, 1994," said Deanna Ciuciura.

She said actual revenues were \$288,515 and expenses were \$231,354. Revenues from video games, photocopyers, student fees and entertainment were higher than what was budgeted, and that accounted for the surplus.

The other item on the agenda which prompted a lot of discussion was the school's weekly newspaper, Ciuciura said.

"It wasn't just DSA people who were concerned about the Spoke not serving the students' needs, but also the BOD. The argument that it's a learning tool for the journalism program is fine, but it should be students who make decisions about the paper not the faculty supervisors," she said.

Ciuciura said she had asked faculty why some stories about events around the college are missed. But she said the reply from faculty was that some things fall through the cracks.

"I like the paper and I read the paper," she said. "But,

it has to be geared towards the students more and deal with issues or things that concern students."

In other matters, the BOD was updated on activities including the casino night in Windsor and the Detroit Pistons basketball game. Both events are DSA sponsored activities and dates for each event have been confirmed. Ciuciura said the casino night is scheduled for Nov. 16, and the basketball game in Detroit for Feb. 14. "Since there was no baseball and there is no hockey we have 47 tickets (one bus load) for the basketball game," she said.

In other business, the association's constitution was rewritten to reflect recent changes in the organizational chart of the DSA. The constitution states the bylaws of the DSA and the BOD, and is a legal document that both organizations have to abide by, Ciuciura said.

"We used to have titles of vice-president of communications and vice-president of administration but it has been changed to the current titles in the constitution."

The entertainment assistant and activities assistant also have voting privileges now, in the old constitution they did not, she said.

DSA will also be looking over the club grant procedures document to help them decide how to fund the many clubs that were formed earlier in September.

Ciuciura stressed that the BOD has seats left if students still want to become involved. "There is a seat for every year for every program."

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Personality Profile

Jamie K. Vasey

Hello my little cheesedoodle. I'm Jamie K. Vasey (that's Ms. Jackson if you're nasty.) C.R.K.Z sports director and all around average non-descript radio guy. I annoy you every

Wednesday and Thursday at the top of the hour with everything that is not happening in sports. On Fridays, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., I spin some sloppy tunes.



From 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. it is head-to-head sports with my co-host Cherie Woodhouse.

Got comments? I would be pleased to hear them. Got complaints? Stuff it.

P. S. I am currently on pace to set a record for the most appearances in Spoke in one year. This honor is currently co-held by John Tibbits and Cliff the toxic woodpecker.

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the DSA Activities Office

Conestoga in focus



Peace, dude —

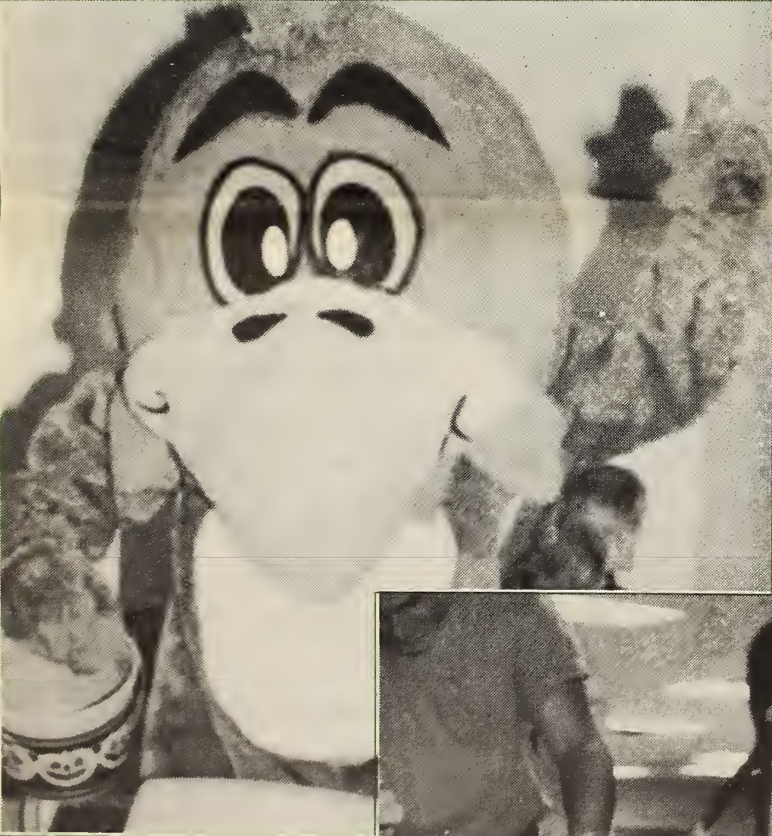
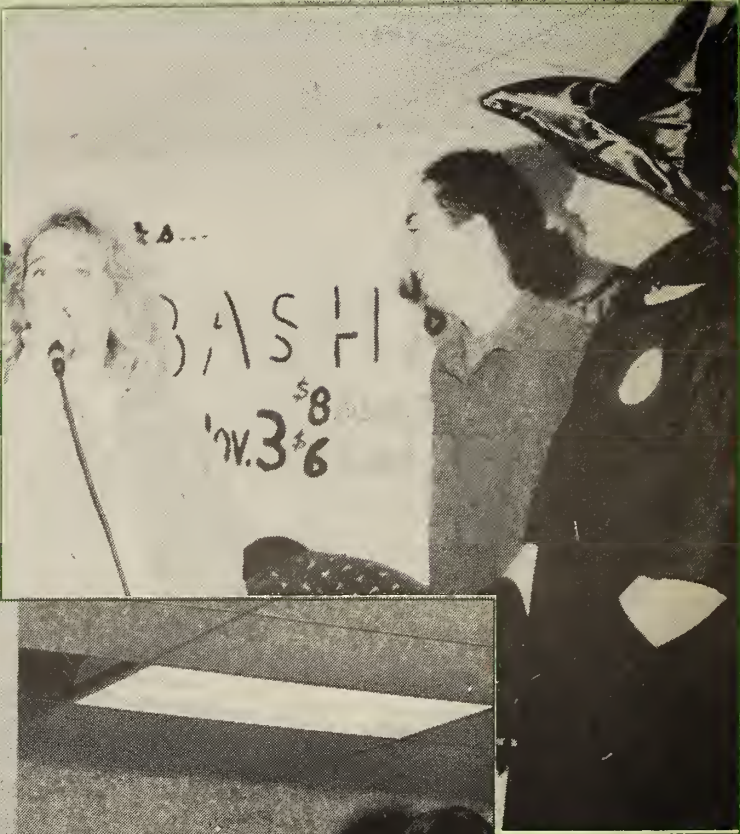
Staff members from the campus principal's office are (left to right) Nancy Roszell, Edith Torbay, Mary-Lynn Dedls and Diane Miners.

(Photo by Blair Mathews)

Howl of a time —

Penny Stockwell, a second-year early childhood education student, howls it up for the lunch hour crowd during the Wolf Howling contest Oct. 31.

(Photo by David Carlton)



Trick or treat —

Cliff the Condor waves to students in the cafeteria as he hands out candy on Oct. 31.

(Photo by Blair Mathews)



Pumpkin patch —

DSA president Sabina Kampf looks on as students carve Jack-O-Lanterns Oct. 31 in the main cafeteria.

(Photo by Blair Mathews)



A cut above —

Ron Smrczek grades a carved pumpkin at the pumpkin carving contest held in the main cafeteria Oct. 31.

(Photo by David Carlton)

Perspective

Mature Students

Workload raises mature student's doubts

By James K. Leduc

Wayne Attwell is 40 years old and just two months into his first semester of his materials management course at Doon campus. He says the workload is too much and too tough for someone who has been out of school for 27 years.

"The course should be slowed down and spread out," Attwell said. "I have my doubts about getting through this because it's very hard to adapt your mind to all the things they throw at students."

Attwell, one of hundreds of mature students at Conestoga College, was a baker by trade, but he said 21 years of heavy lifting left him with spinal problems and without a job. He also receives workers' compensation benefits, but is in college to be retrained to re-enter the workforce. But, he said, there are doubts in his mind about being able to complete the course.

"I am going to do the best I can, but the college should spread things out a bit and the teachers should go over things more thoroughly. They should take each point they are trying to teach and explain it instead of just giving a hand-out."

The Guelph native said he saw a counsellor about the problem last week and the only advice he got was to study more. Attwell's opinion is a person can only study so much and they should have a life outside of school.

To get into Conestoga, Attwell had to upgrade at the college's campus in Guelph. He quit school in Grade 7 and needed to get the equivalent of Grade 12 before he could get into the program.

"Right now I am undecided on the field I want to get into," Attwell said.

"This course covers accounting, marketing, purchasing, inventory control and computers. And that's

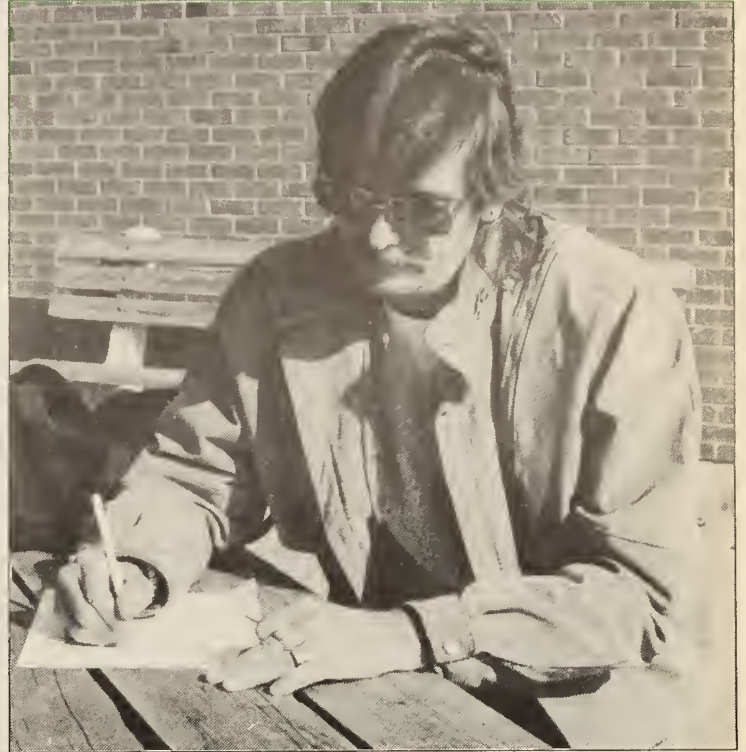
part of the problem. I'm in eight different classes and I am having trouble comprehending all of them."

Attwell said kids coming from Grade 12 or 13 are not having the same problems a mature student does because they are used to the pace of school and they know how to study. He said the course base is too broad and teachers try to cover too much.

"It needs to be narrowed a bit and this concerns me. Come December if I fail two subjects I am out and I will be cut off workers' compensation."

Workers' compensation is paying for Attwell's retraining, he said. The board also pays his living expenses while he is in school and will cover him for six months after he graduates.

"The job search coverage only lasts for so long and after that I am on my own," he said.



Wayne Attwell, a mature student at Doon, fills out a peer tutoring form outside the cafeteria. (Photo by James K. Leduc)

Mature students' group meets needs of mature students

By Maria Wareham

Meeting the different needs of mature students and having a voice in the college community is the focus of Conestoga's mature student group, says Laura Vaillancourt, a second-year management studies student and the group's president.

"The percentage of mature students in the college is high but there's nobody to represent us. The college gears to the younger student but our needs are not the same. We want to put our two cents worth in. We want to be heard," she said.

Major problems mature students in the group have expressed include curriculum is not geared towards mature students and stu-

dents are not treated like adults, explained Leslie Murphy, pre-health student and single parent, and Ben Worsell, a first-year CPA student and vice-president of the group.

"I don't like being talked down to by teachers," Worsell said. "I am making a contribution to their wages."

Other problems encountered by mature students are the lack of DSA activities for them, fitting in with younger students, and the need for a lounge away from the loud music and pinball machines, Murphy said.

"There is nothing here socially that appeals to me. My first two weeks were really difficult. It was hard trying to find a group to fit into in a program with only three or

four mature students," she said.

Spoke (the college's weekly paper) also needs to change and reflect the student body, said Ben Noseworthy, a first-year CPA student. Noseworthy said he would like to see more student issues and human-interest stories and less coverage of faculty and staff. "They represent less than 10 per cent of population here. Why target them?"

The group is trying to organize family-oriented activities such as skating, Vaillancourt said. "We're making sure there's social events where mature students can bring their kids. It's something to do on the weekends because during the week there's not much time to spend with kids."

Although events are family oriented,

Vaillancourt said all mature students are welcome.

The group is also considering setting up a babysitting co-op, Murphy said. The babysitting co-op would mean members would take turns babysitting for each other.

There are about 15 members in the group and "it is surprisingly mixed" both men and women, Worsell said. About five of its members are single parents, he said.

Vaillancourt says she believes the group will last. "The members are committed and want to see changes and once we're heard more people will get involved."

The mature students group meets every Wednesday in the Blue Room from 2:30 to 3:30.



Laura Vaillancourt, during her spare in the main cafeteria, catches up on some homework. (Photo by Brenda Boomer)

Mature student glad to be back at school

By Brenda Boomer

Laura Vaillancourt, a second-year business administration student, says she would advise other adults to go back to school and get an education.

Vaillancourt, a mature student, said it is tough getting back into school, but it's worth it. "It's hard coming back after being out of school for so long."

Vaillancourt said getting back into a routine can be difficult. "I haven't had to think so much in a long time." "Trying to organize your time and do everything from kids to studying is hard," Vaillancourt said.

College has given her a feeling of accomplishment, she said. "It's been a big boost to my self-esteem and something I really want to do for myself."

In the beginning, Vaillancourt said she was afraid to go back to school. "Upgrading at the Conestoga College campus in Cam-

bridge really prepared a lot of us for coming here."

Upgrading gave Vaillancourt an idea of what to expect, she said. "I could never have gone from home to Doon without upgrading. Even if I didn't academically need it."

Vaillancourt said upgrading starts a student out slowly. You begin by setting small goals for yourself.

"If you set goals too high, you set yourself up for failure," she said. Vaillancourt said she would advise other adults to take upgrading first. "It's a big boost. The more you learn, the more you empower yourself and we all need to be empowered."

Vaillancourt is now the president of the Mature Students' Club at Doon, and is also a member of the program advisory committee for her program.

"I wanted to join the Mature Students' Club to make more people aware of us (mature students) and find things out to make sure people like myself are aware of

what is available to them."

Although Vaillancourt said being a mature student is tough, she agrees coming out of high school and working part time would be difficult as well.

One advantage a student out of high school has is consistency, she said. "The work, like math for instance, is a lot fresher in your mind." But a mature student has the advantage of experience, said Vaillancourt. "Because of things I have experienced in my life, I can take them and relate it of school. I've been in the real world and I know what it's like."

Vaillancourt said she would tell any mature student not to allow fear to stand in their way of going back to school.

"If someone would have told me before were I'd be right now, I wouldn't have believed them," she said. "I think the frustrations, headaches and stress that I get from being in school are worth it," she added.

Zepf builds an international success

By Rob Heinbecker

From a small garage shop and a Conestoga diploma to one of Waterloo Region's most successful small businesses, Larry Zepf and his family continue to expand their interests internationally.

Zepf Technologies designs and services packaging systems for companies. Their work ranges from designing and manufacturing a component to electronically synchronizing several machines on a packaging assembly line. "We just don't make a product, we work on improving a system," he said.

Zepf said the company's gross revenue exceeded \$10 million in 1993 and will surpass that mark in 1994.

It would have surprised Zepf eight years ago to learn how much the company has grown today.

At that time, the company was not considering manufacturing expansion across political borders, he said.

However, Zepf Technologies has established a plant, which employs 15 people in Cumberland, Scotland, and will soon begin manufacturing in Indianapolis, Ind.

Zepf said the decision to expand the company into Scotland was based on several reasons. Sales for Zepf Technology's services rose by thousands of per cent over the last three years and a vacuum of service in Zepf's field existed in the country.

He said they have captured some of the distillery industry (mainly scotch whisky) in the country, and have set a standard for an industrial centre which the country accepts.

Zepf said the company has established a joint venture with Alcoa, a well connected multi-national corporation.

He said Zepf Technologies has licensed their technology to Alcoa and will soon begin manufacturing in Indianapolis.

During the '80s, Zepf said, the company had been reluctant to become larger because of unwanted problems associated with growth.

"I wasn't excited about getting involved with more complex regulations from government bodies."

Zepf Technologies began to grow much faster in the '90s in response

to their customers' increasing demand.

The company was started in the family's garage by Zepf's father, Lawrence, Dec. 11, 1972.

Zepf and his six brothers worked at the family shop, which largely consisted of machining and welding. They all decided to enrol in Conestoga's machinist program at night to formalize the skills they had learned while working.

"We all went through the same program because it was a natural fit. We were all mechanically inclined."

The brothers went to the Waterloo campus to take the program because Doon did not have apprenticeship at the time.

Zepf had been nominated by the college and twice rejected by the

"Go out and work for a company for five years. Do a good job and make that company successful."

—Larry Zepf

Council of Regents for membership for the Conestoga board of governors.

He said he now has little time to give for an advisory role because of the new international joint ventures his company has established.

He added that he could not finish his term on the local Chamber of Commerce and had to step down.

Zepf said that he is neither bitter nor frustrated about not being appointed, but added that he would rather not be a part of something that would not respect his contributions.

"I don't win all the awards I go for. I don't win all the contracts I go for. The last thing you want is to be a part of something in which you are not appreciated. Especially in an advisory role."

Zepf said he finds the Council of Regents "inconsiderate of the community's needs", and that their appointments are political rather than reflective of the community.

Zepf has supported Conestoga extensively, committing \$25,000 over five years to Conestoga's capital fund, and donating a technical plot-

ter to the college chapter of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers.

But Zepf's most significant show of support towards the college is the hiring of Conestoga graduates. He said 70 per cent of his employees are from Conestoga.

Zepf said he supports the college for two reasons: his business needs the school to be strong and produce well trained graduates for hiring and "There is always a soft spot for where you came from, as long as the college is being run in what you believe is the right spirit."

Zepf said apprenticeship graduates today have more computer skills "than we ever dreamed of."

"There was no computer assisted drawing labs at all when I was there. In fact, computer numerical control machines were coming into their own right in the '70s."

Zepf graduated in 1977 and in 1978 the company took a major risk by attaining a loan from the government to purchase new CNC equipment. "They were state-of-the-art at the time. That was a huge risk."

He said it is difficult for a small business to get money for projects. "The environment of financial institutions accepting that you take risks is not there."

Zepf's advice to students who are considering starting their own small business is to work with a company for experience, then move on with their plans.

"Go out and work for a company for five years. Do a good job and make that company successful."

He said that by working for an established company, a person would gain business intelligence and maturity.

He added that a person should not try to accomplish everything alone. "Tie up with some other good people because to try and do it yourself today is crazy. There are too many legislations, laws, regulations and new technologies that you have to know and have."

Zepf said a lot of people who start their own business are successful, but "they have to work harder than they have ever worked before in their life, and that stops most people from committing."

He said he and his brothers used to work 12 hours a day and working 70 hour weeks was common.



Nursing students Denise Van Daken and Angie Wilkinson at the career fair Oct. 24. (Photo by Blair Matthews)

Career fair held for nursing

By Blair Matthews

Sixth-semester nursing students participated in a career-oriented nursing fair held at the Doon campus Oct. 17.

Margie Warren, a nursing faculty member, said approximately 62 nursing students took part in the fair which was a requirement for achieving a B+ in the course.

Students were required to meet a number of objectives for their display to be successful.

"They had to have their topic clearly defined, they had to talk about the educational experience for that specific career, and the nursing role in that career had to be clearly outlined," she said.

In addition, the opportunities for advancement had to be addressed and students had to outline the current trends related to their career topic, Warren said.

Warren explained each group at the fair shared several main goals. "They learn co-operation with their classmates, they learn collaboration with agencies, they learn what it takes to set up booths because this is something that nurses in our career often do. We arrange professional kinds of things, so this is certainly a good step to meet that."

According to Melissa Hession, a third-year nursing student, a substantial amount of work was required to put together the projects. Hession and her group chose to research nursing as an independent practice and went to the College of Nurses in Toronto as part of their research.

"I think (research) is a big part of it and basically how to present something clear and concise. People don't want to have sit and hunt for what they're doing," Hession said students participating in the job fair were required to choose a topic from the list of 16 choices. "It was basically geared towards what you were interested in doing. If the topic was taken, you had to take second-best," she said.

Topics for the fair ranged from independent nursing, to public health, hospital and travelling nursing, Hession said.

Hession said the best part about being part of a nursing fair is the teaching aspect. "You get to expand people's knowledge and get them to realize more career opportunities that are available to them. I think that when you're in semester six, you really sort of think it's just hospital nursing. This is giving us a lot more facets of what can be expected or available in the job market."

CAREER CORNER by Marilyn Snyder

COVER LETTERS

A cover letter is an introductory letter that accompanies your resume. The purpose is to introduce you to a potential employer and to interest this employer sufficiently so that he/she will read your enclosed resume.

We all know how important the first impression can be and the cover letter is exactly that — *the first impression to a potential employer.*

It is strongly recommended a cover letter be sent with every resume when applying for a job.

Format for an effective cover letter:

WHY YOU ARE WRITING - Make reference to how you heard of the opening or what type of work you are seeking.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO OFFER - Highlights skills, accomplishments, work experience which would make you an asset to the company. It is important that you relate your talents to what the employer might be looking for.

REQUEST AN INTERVIEW - Indicate you will call to arrange a suitable time. If you do not receive a response after 2 weeks, telephone the employer restating your interest in possible employment with their organization.

The cover letter should be tailored to the actual position. A cover letter must be error free. Make your letter concise and to the point. A cover letter does not repeat the resume, it highlights it. Clearly, the content of the cover letter can play a major role in the effectiveness of your job search.

(Career Corner is prepared by Student Services)

Warning: Renovations in Progress

We want your ideas to improve our paper

Changes are in the works to modernize the paper's layout and make the stories more interesting to students. In the coming weeks we will be distributing surveys to see what you think about Spoke and the direction you would like to see it go in.

Spoke

Changing to meet your needs

Students hold garage sale for United Way

By Kerry Masche

A "garage sale" held in Conestoga's Blue Room cafeteria Oct. 24 raised \$140 for the college's United Way campaign.

The event, held between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., was organized and run by third-year marketing students Chad Baldwin, John Jaklitsch and Brad Huck.

Donated items were collected from staff and students Oct. 20 and 21, between 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Novels and magazines made up the majority of the goods donated along with a few sweatshirts, mugs and other small items. Prices ranged from 25 cents to \$5.

After the first hour of the sale, only \$60 had been raised. At that point, Baldwin said, "I thought the idea wouldn't sell because a lot of people don't want to buy second-hand goods."

Although the event was advertised on the college radio station CRKZ and flyers had been posted around school, he said he wished a location for the sale had been arranged that was more crowded.

Jaklitsch said the sale went about as well as he had expected because of the small amount of planning involved. He said faculty and mature students were purchasing more items than anyone else.

He added that most of the items left unsold would be boxed and picked up by the Salvation Army or ROOF (Reaching Our Outdoor Friends), an organization that provides counselling and necessities for homeless youths in the Kitchener-Waterloo area.



Third-year marketing students Chad Baldwin (left) and John Jaklitsch ran the garage sale held Oct. 24. (Photo by Kerry Masche)

Huck said a few people had left donations without buying anything at the sale. A total of \$6 was collected in donations.

Although Huck said he thought sales increased considerably during the second hour of the event, he said next year it might be a better idea to hold a community garage sale outside.

He said a lot of people had been looking for larger items such as telephones and lamps.

Linda Krotz, Doon campus administrator and manager of learning resource centres, co-chaired this year's campaign along with

business chair Edith Torbay.

Krotz said she had been concerned about the sale not having enough prior advertising and promotion.

"I think we've seen a lot of student involvement (in the United Way) this year, but this type of thing needs a lot more time to prepare."

But Krotz said she was pleased with the amount collected.

She explained the sale would have been more successful if it had been scheduled closer to the end of the term rather than near mid-term exams.

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Mondays are "Movie Madness Days" in the Student Lounge

All day, every Monday!



Check it out!



Kees Morsink (left), of Origins, looks on while Christine Berberich, a third-year management studies student, looks over the items on sale to help the LASA fundraiser. (Photo by Mike Beitz)

Display raises money for LASA banquet

By Brenda Boomer

Conestoga College's hallway was a display case of a different culture during the week of Oct. 26.

Margaret Van Helvort, owner of Origins in Waterloo, displayed an array of different clothing and jewelry from Africa, to help raise money for the college's Law and Security Administration (LASA) fundraiser.

Don Douglas, a faculty member of LASA, said it's the third year that Origins has been on campus.

"She (Van Helvort) came out of the blue and asked if she could come on campus," he said.

Van Helvort said Origins donates 10 per cent of what it takes

in from selling its products at Doon and gives it to LASA.

"The funds will be used towards paying for the annual banquet. The banquet is a fairly costly event," Douglas said.

Douglas said all of the fundraising events LASA students participate in do not cut into academic learning. "It's outside of class times."

Douglas indicated this particular fundraiser is good for LASA because they only had to offer the space.

Van Helvort said she and her husband get their products directly from small villages in Nigeria, Nepos and India.

"My husband and I just started travelling seven years ago. The

business just happened," she said.

Van Helvort had lived in Africa for five years. This past year their sole purpose of travelling was to purchase more crafts, she said.

"In Burkina Faso (Africa) we helped them (villagers) make more lucrative crafts to be sold back in Canada," she said.

Van Helvort said most of the crafts displayed at Doon were hand-made with the exception of some of the silver.

Van Helvort said she sells her products at the college a couple times a year. Last year she lost approximately \$300 to theft.

"It (theft) happens. At another show I lost 40 rings in one day," she said.

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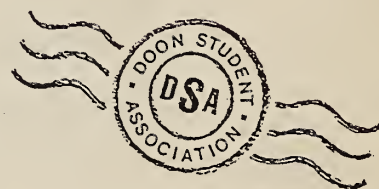
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Remembrance Day Services

Friday, November 11

10:30 a.m.

Blue Cafeteria



Please join us for a time of remembering. The service will be followed by a tree planting ceremony outside the main cafeteria.

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**Casino Windsor
Bus Trip**



Wednesday, November 16

Transportation via Coachline \$15

Sign up at the DSA Activities Office by November 11.

Bus will depart at 8a.m. and return at approx. 7 p.m.

Medal winners

Women's soccer team wins Ontario bronze medal

By Winston Endall

Conestoga's women's soccer Condors ended their season by taking the Ontario Colleges Athletics Association bronze medal at the Ontario championship tournament at Fanshawe College Oct. 28-29.

The tournament was final-four style with four teams playing to decide the gold, silver and bronze.

In their first game, the Condors lost 1-0 to the Centennial Colts.

Conestoga coach Geoff Johnstone named goalie Amanda Kesselring player of the game

Centennial 1 Conestoga 0 — Oct. 28
Conestoga 3 Algonquin 2 — Oct. 29

for her outstanding performance.

In their second game, the team made up for the loss with a 3-2 win over the Algonquin Thunder.

Conestoga's Elaine Keller, Johnstone's original choice for goalie before an early season injury sidelined her, scored two goals.

Cathy McGee accounted for scored the other Condor goal.

Both of Algonquin's goals were scored by Sue Lussier.

Keller was named player of the game.

The gold medal for the tournament went to the Fanshawe Falcons, the only team to beat the Condors this season. The Falcons won both of their games, beating Algonquin in the first game and Centennial in their second.

Fanshawe will go on to represent Ontario at the Canadian Championships in British Columbia this week.

The Centennial Colts went home with the silver medal after winning their first game against Conestoga and losing their second to Fanshawe. (Winston Endall is a writer for spoke and an employee of the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre)

Women's soccer Condors advance to championships

By Winston Endall

Playing in the cold wind atop Hamilton Mountain, Conestoga's women's soccer team advanced to the Ontario championships with a 1-0 win over the Mohawk Mountaineers, Oct. 24.

The Condors went into the game with their usual plan of outplaying the other team with technique and finesse rather than brute power, but the weather made ball control difficult.

The cold made the field hard and slippery, causing players to slip and

Conestoga 1 Mohawk 0

the ball to bounce more than usual.

This seemed to throw the Condor game off early in the first half but they quickly adapted to the conditions.

Conestoga made numerous charges on the Mohawk net, but had many shots to go wide of the net due to the wind.

Mohawk played a rough game, hurting a number of Condors. Vicki Kane was kneed in the rib and Kelly Shantz was kicked in the stomach, but in spite of the obvious pain they

were going through, they toughed it out to continue playing.

Mohawk had a few chances to score but they were shut down by strong goaltending from Amanda Kesselring who has only given up three goals all season.

Conestoga finally scored 10 minutes into the second half when Vicki Kane powered her way through the larger Mohawk defenders to beat the goaltender with a shot from inside the crease.

Towards the end, the Condors were still playing strong, clearly having a fitness advantage over

Mohawk.

Conestoga coach Geoff Johnstone said he was happy with the way the team played.

"It was a messy, scrappy game, but the girls stuck to their jobs."

Condor Kristin Smith said the team didn't play well technically but won because they wanted it more.

"We didn't pass the ball well today, but we got to the ball first every time."

(Winston Endall is a writer for Spoke and an employee of the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre)



Condor Tammy Flanagan steals the ball from a Mohawk forward in the Oct. 24 game. (Photo by Winston Endall)

Male Athlete of the Week for Oct. 17-23



Dave Long

Long, of the men's hockey team, was nominated for his strong play against WLU, with the teams only goal, and Niagara College.

(advertisement)

Female Athlete of the Week for Oct. 17-23



Fawn Day

Day won the league pitching title and helped take the softball team to a silver medal in the league Championships Oct. 21-22.

(advertisement)

SPORTS

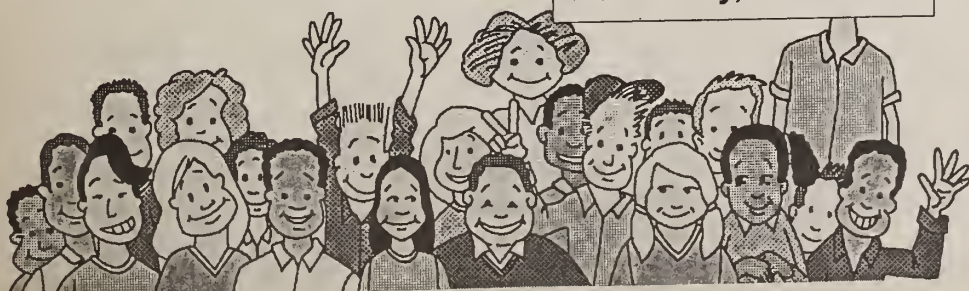
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Deadline for sign up
 Wednesday, November 9



Dress differently for the United Way!

For \$2 per day (or 3 days for \$5), wear whatever you want (almost) to school — and support the 1994 area United Way campaign. The Conestoga UW campaign committee has set the following DRESS DIFFERENTLY DAYS — but you can use your dress-differently tickets for any day you choose

Friday, Nov. 25 -- community-wide UW dress casual day

Tuesday, Feb. 14, 1995 -- dress red for Valentine's Day

Friday, March 31, 1995 -- dress differently for April Fool's Day (the following day)

Buy your tickets from: Mary-Lynn Dedels (Doon), Leisa Cronsberry (SCSB), Mary McElwain (Woodworking Centre), Barb Glaser (ECE), Linda Guthrie (Guelph), Sherley Loucks (Waterloo), Karen Wilson (Cambridge), Linda MacLeod (Stratford), Sue Read (Health Sciences).

Let's do the Time Warp again

Princess Cinema continues Halloween tradition

By David Carlton

It was Halloween night and the Princess Cinema was packed with strangely clad young people, shouting and throwing things at the screen. To the "virgins" (as the term goes), it looked like they were booing the movie, when in actuality, this was all in a night's work for The Rocky Horror Picture Show. Every Oct 31, the Princess Cinema, on Princess Street in Waterloo holds an annual tradition where the cult film, The Rocky Horror Picture Show (a notorious musical, renowned for its audience participation), is played along with another contemporary film of dark nature. This year was no exception. The Rocky Horror Picture Show evolved from a twisted stage-play into a still-twisted motion picture,

and has endured a devout following since, according to a few costume-garbed patrons of the Princess. "The full audience participation is a must," said Mitch Williams of Kitchener, one of the movie-goers. "If you just sit and watch the movie in your living room, you really miss out on the whole mystique, and you end up depriving yourself of a damned good time." The main part of the participation was the shouting of traditional responses. These took the form of insults (usually directed at Susan Sarandon and Barry Bostwick), observations of actor Charles Gray's apparent lack of a neck. In some cases, new items were added to the traditional repertoire, but usually the carved-in-stone lines of dialogue were toyed with relentlessly. Some exchanges were

Off-campus entertainment review

asking Gray just how strange the strange journey was, questioning Sarandon's character's chastity, and asking Tim Curry what he puts on his corn flakes. One traditional action on the part of the audience involved flinging toast at the screen when Curry's character, Dr. Frank-n-furter raised his glass and says "A toast!" The classic song from the movie, the Time Warp, drew many dancers up to the stage in front of the screen, taking "the jump to the left and then the step to the right." During Curry's "Sweet Transvestite" song, a few young men in drag swanned across the stage in the same fashion as Frank-n-furter. This year's accompanying fea-

tures were a European film called Suture and Brandon Lee's final movie before his death, The Crow. The Crow, coincidentally enough, takes place during the Halloween season, and there were a few movie-goers at the Princess that evening who had painted their faces in the same harlequin style that Lee had in the movie. Called a "ready-made cult classic" by the Kitchener-Waterloo Record, the Crow tells a tale of love and vengeance as Lee's character returns from the dead on the one-year anniversary of his and his fiancée's murder — Halloween. After the night was over, and the house-lights came on, the devastation was plainly seen. Banquet quantities of rice littered the wet floor, with a few scattered pieces of toast here and there.

ENTERTAINMENT

Grid's Evolver is a waste of money

Album Review
Artist: The Grid — Evolver(BMG)
Performance: Repetitious and boring
Hot Spots: Swamp Thing
Bottom Line: Don't waste your money

By Dan Wettlaufer

First off, this album is horrible. It plays fast and dies hard. Secondly, the album is 63 minutes and 11 seconds long and 57 minutes and 10 seconds of it is junk. The only outstanding song on this release is Swamp Thing. The Grid have been called everything from "the nation's foremost computer-loving, club-life friendly, teutonic, cyber-trance deep space explorers" to "the new Pink Floyd." After listening to Evolver they can also be called "the Micheal Bolton of the techno dance world." The Grid consist of Dave Ball and Richard Norris, and very little talent. The sound of one-hand clapping would provide more entertainment than the Grid's latest release. Nine of the 10 songs on Evolver have the same steady beat, mixed behind an assault of

annoying computer generated sound effects. A couple of monkeys could deliver something more entertaining than what Ball and Norris have coughed up. Just as you expect the little push that makes songs good or great, the songs continue along with the same mind-numbing sound effects. As mentioned before, Swamp Thing is an exception to the rest of the album. It starts off with the bass drum kicking in your chest just like every other song, but when it comes time for that snappy change, it happens. When you least suspect it, from out of nowhere a finger picking, boot stomping, knee slapping banjo grabs hold of the listener and takes them on a wild and unexpected ride. It flows with fluidity and ease, where as the other songs try too hard to sound good. The song is already a huge hit at nightclubs and is sure to remain that way for quite some



time. On a rating system of five stars, Evolver gets a three, (only because Swamp Thing is such an amazing tune). If you hear the song and like it, save yourself some money and buy the cassette or compact disc single. Your ears and wallet will thank-you in the long run.

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